

ROCKVILLE REPORTS

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A monthly newsletter for the citizens of the City of Rockville

One-Cent Property Tax Rate Reduction Approved for FY07

Budget Includes Improved Tax Credit Program; Water and Sewer Rate Structure Changes

Rockville's Mayor and Council on June 5 unanimously adopted the Fiscal Year 2007 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that provides tax relief for property owners by lowering the City property tax rate by one cent per \$100 of assessed value. The last time the City lowered the tax rate was for the FY2000 budget.

The operating budget will maintain Rockville's excellent services at their current levels, provide services to the new Rockville Town Center, restructure the City's water and sewer funds and expand the City's Low-Income Homeowner Tax Credit program. (See Page 5 for more details on the latter two programs.)

The adopted FY07 operating budget, which will go into effect July 1, is \$85.7 million. That is \$1.7 million less than the proposed budget City Manager Scott Ullery submitted for consideration on April 3. The

decrease reflects the tax rate reduction.

The real property tax rate will be 31.2 cents per \$100 of assessed value. In addition to the new structure of water and sewage rates, there will be a modest increase in refuse fees. The FY2007-2011 CIP incorporates \$79.2 million for public improvements to be made over the next five years, including \$16.5 million in FY07.

The FY07 budget for all funds is an overall 3.8 percent decrease from the FY06 adopted budget, which included an \$11.7 million repayment of short-term debt. Adjusting for that repayment, the FY07 budget represents a 13.8 percent increase over the FY06 adopted budget. The General Fund, which supports the city's day-to-day operations, will grow to \$56.2 million, a 10.4 percent increase over the FY06 adopted budget.

Much of the increase in General Fund expenses will

service the debt for Town Center public improvements and the three new parking garages being constructed in the revitalized downtown. General Fund operating expenditures would rise by only 3.5 percent.

The proposed FY07 Capital Improvements Program of \$16.5 million will fund construction of the Thomas Farm Community Center, initial phases of Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park and new meeting and fitness rooms at the Rockville Municipal Swim Center. It also will fund ongoing programs such as street resurfacing, curb/gutter/sidewalk replacements and sewer line upgrades.

The refuse rate will be \$31 per month, an increase of \$1.50.

The budget includes measures to meet rising energy costs. The FY07 budget includes \$110,000 more than FY06 for heating fuel; \$332,000 more than in FY06 for electricity; and \$230,000 more than FY06 for gasoline. [RR](#)



INSIDE

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Public Hearings to be held June 27 and July 19
- **STREET TREES NEED WATER TOO**, pg. 7
Water the garden and street trees during dry weather

July 4 Celebration Moves to College

Rockville's Independence Day Celebration on Tuesday, July 4, will be a bang this year at its new location at the Montgomery College—Rockville campus.

Two stages of live outdoor musical entertainment and food

vendors will begin the celebration at 7 p.m. leading up to a colorful display of pyrotechnics at 9:30 p.m.

All events are free. For more information, see page 6 of *Rockville Reports*. [RR](#)

One of Nation's Most Advanced Parking Systems Coming to Rockville Town Center

Rockville's Mayor and Council have approved the purchase of a parking guidance system for three public garages in the new Rockville Town Center that will be among the nation's most technologically advanced systems for municipal downtown parking.

The guidance system will be installed in all three garages that will support Phase I of Rockville's revitalized downtown redevelopment, now under construction.

The new system, which will affect a total of 973 spaces

in the three garages, will include constantly updated signs placed at remote gateways to Rockville Town Center that inform drivers which garages have open spaces.

The most advanced feature of Rockville's garages will be the single-spaced monitoring system. There will be a visible indicator above most spaces that signal whether that space is available, thereby helping drivers find available spaces quickly.

Walker Parking Consultants estimates the system will cost approximately \$802,000 for

installation, plus an annual average of \$51,700 for operating expenses over a 10-year period, for an estimated total cost of \$1,319,000. The City previously issued \$35 million in 30-year bonds to pay for construction of the three garages. That amount included \$750,000 in anticipation of the City adopting some type of parking guidance system.

Single-space guidance systems have been used successfully in Europe, but Walker Parking said it could not identify any jurisdiction in the U.S. where single-space monitoring



NEW PUBLIC ART COMING TO ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE... Above is one of five new art projects recently approved by the Mayor and Council to be installed in the new Rockville Town Square development. "Clio" was designed by Howard Kalish of Brooklyn, N.Y., and will be located on the corner of Beall and Maryland Avenue near the new Rockville library. See "Focus on the Arts" Insert for details on all selected projects.

was being used in a downtown municipal garage. A similar system is in use at Thurgood Marshall BWI Airport near Baltimore.

The Mayor and Council in March approved pursuing a system that would allow parkers to pay—either by cash, credit cards or "smart cards"

charged in advance with monetary value—at multi-space pay stations on each parking level and in the Town Center public plaza area. By knowing their space number, parkers will be able to add minutes from any pay station without having to return to the garage where their car was located. [RR](#)

July's Best of Rockville

7&8 Rockville Open and City Championship Golf Tournament RedGate Municipal Golf Course. Call 240-314-8730 for more information.

11, 18, 25 Kids, Parks, Performing Arts Free outdoor entertainment series in parks throughout the City every Tuesday evening. See Focus on the Arts Insert for details. Call 240-314-8682 for more information.



15 Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest 8-kilometer race and 1-kilometer fun run through the streets of Rockville. Followed by music and refreshments. 7-11 p.m. Rockville Town Center. Call 240-314-8600 for more information or visit www.mcrrc.org/twilighter

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City Projects UPDATE

RECREATION & PARKS

GENERAL PROJECTS

Asphalt/Concrete

Improvements • Partial replacement of asphalt walking path to and around tennis court in Horizon Hill Park

Bikeway Route Signs

Installation of signs along all designated bike routes is being partially funded by National Recreational Trails Program. Plans and specifications have been under review by Maryland State Highway Administration since February.

City Hall Improvements

Major renovation has been completed • Open house held June 12.

Civic Center Long Range Plan

• Feasibility study underway to identify adequate and accessible parking, vehicular and pedestrian access and stormwater management on the Civic Center grounds • Final design and construction cost estimates completed in June.

Dog Park

• Park for dogs and owners in Mattie J. T. Stepanek Park • Construction under way • Rockville Dog Owners Group (RDOG) continues to participate in planning and managing of park • Expected construction completion in fall.

I-270/Route 28 Bike/

Pedestrian Bridge • Separate bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists parallel to Maryland Route 28 on south side across I-270 to connect Hurley Avenue and Nelson Street bikeways • TEA-21 grant for \$3,771,910 received from State Highway Administration • Construction began in May and is expected to be completed in late 2007.

King Farm Farmstead

• Courtesy review by Historic District Commission completed • Preparing to re-bid project • Re-construction of hay drying shed to begin in fall. Improvements to small tenant house are expected to begin this fall.

Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park

• Construction documents finalized • Phase I construction bid awarded in January • Phase I to be completed in fall • Phase II construction to begin in July.

Millennium Trail

• Final section from Veirs Mill Road to W. Edmonston Drive • Construction began in fall 2005 • Final landscaping and sign installation remaining • Majority of project cost cov-

ered by TEA-21 grant awarded by Maryland State Highway Administration.

Playground Equipment

Improvements • Falls Grove Park equipment to be installed in the summer • Installation pending land transfer from developer to City • Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park equipment installation scheduled for fall • Hillcrest and Silver Rock Parks equipment has been designed and is out to bid.

Rockville Municipal Swim Center Meeting/Fitness Room

• Architectural and engineer services contract awarded in January • Design work began in spring • Construction in Fiscal Year 2008.

Thomas Farm Community Center

• Design presented to Mayor and Council in May • Architect working on detail design due this summer • Construction to begin in fall.

Urban Forest Renewal

• Removal of aging and hazardous trees in Twinbrook, Fallsmead, Potomac Woods and other neighborhoods is ongoing • Replacement plantings to take place in spring and fall.

PUBLIC WORKS

TRANSPORTATION

Bike/Pedestrian Improvements

• Sidewalk installation on Mannakee Street from Beall Avenue to Carr Avenue completed • Sidewalk installation on Lynch Street from Beall Avenue to Anderson Avenue and Calvin Lane near Meadow Hall Elementary under design; construction scheduled for summer • Sidewalk installation on Argyle Street from Maryland Avenue to Monroe Street; tentatively scheduled to begin in summer.

Improve Pedestrian/Bicycle

Safety at Schools • Short-term measures including pavement markings and signs are complete • Ritchie Park Elementary School, College Gardens Elementary School and Meadow Hall Elementary Schools participated in a 15-mph speed limit pilot project from January through June • New pedestrian countdown signals were installed at the intersection of E. Jefferson Street and Rollins Avenue.

Red Light Cameras

• The installation of two new red light cameras along Route 28 in Rockville Town Center (Eastbound Route 28 at South Washington Street and Westbound Route 28 at

Maryland Avenue) is complete • Cameras are currently operational.

Street Lights

• The City is working with Pepco to install new conduits and cables for streetlights on Wootton Parkway between Route 355 and Edmonston Drive • Streetlight project on the south/west side of Route 28 south of Falls Grove Drive is under design.

STREAM & STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS

Alsace Lane Stream

Restoration • Design complete on 500 feet of stream in the Rock Creek drainage area • Construction planned for fall.

Carnation/I-270 SWM Retrofit

• Modify existing stormwater management facilities to implement stream erosion control in Watts Branch drainage area • Design complete • Construction planned for winter 2006-07.

College Gardens Low Impact Design (LID) SWM Study

• Consultants evaluated various LID techniques on public and private property to improve Watts Branch water quality and reduce runoff • LID Assessment Report was presented to the Mayor and Council in December • Opportunities for LID measures will be pursued after the College Gardens Park/Pond modification project is complete.

College Gardens Park/Pond

Modification • Develop alternative concept designs that will balance SWM needs with active and passive park recreation features and natural resource preservation (trees, streams, wetlands) • SWM alternatives examined include: Retrofitting the existing farm pond to a SWM pond and locating a new pond outside the College Gardens Park, within the tributary area • The existing park pond with modified, park amenities may be replaced, relocated or modified • Alternative concepts will be developed and reviewed in close coordination with the adjacent communities and staff from College Gardens Elementary School.

Longwood Drive Drainage

Improvement • Design is underway to relieve occasional street flooding during major rainstorms • Construction planned for fall.

Maryvale SWM and Park

Improvements • Existing dual-use ball field/SWM facility will be modified to create a separate

soccer field and stormwater marsh • Design is ongoing • Construction is planned for summer 2007.

RedGate Golf Course

Stormwater Management

Retrofits • Modify existing SWM facilities in Rock Creek drainage area • Construction is substantially complete.

Rockcrest Stream

Improvement • 2,900 feet of stream restoration in the Rock Creek watershed is being designed • Construction is planned for fall.

Woottons Mill Stream

Improvement • 4,400 feet of stream restoration in the Watts Branch Watershed is substantially complete.

UTILITIES

Adclare Water Main

Replacement • Approximately 1,500 feet of six-inch water main under Adclare Road will be replaced with 12-inch water main • Construction to start Aug./Sept. 2006.

Evans Street Sewer • Sewer replacement for approx. 300 feet of six-inch PVC pipe at 110 and 112 Evans Street • Construction is complete.

Lewis Avenue Water Main

Replacement • Approximately 5,000 feet of eight-inch water main under Lewis Avenue will be replaced with 12-inch main • Design is ongoing • Construction planned for spring 2007.

Sewer Rehabilitation • Sewer rehabilitation of underground piping for the southeastern area of Twinbrook is underway • Completion is expected in July.

Southlawn Lane Sewer and

Water • Two concept designs are being prepared for extending water and sewer service to the Southlawn Lane industrial area • The property owners will participate with the final alignment selection as part of annexing this area into the City of Rockville • Design is expected to be completed in early 2007 • Construction is planned for summer 2007.

WATER IMPROVEMENTS

Glen Mill Pump Station

• Project will provide the additional pumping capacity needed to provide sufficient water supply to the entire Rockville water system • Construction started in September 2004 and is substantially complete • Testing and training are ongoing • Pump station should be fully operational by July 1.

Horizon Hills Water Main

• The conditions of water mains will be assessed in the fall • Pipe replacement may be required, depending on pipe condition • Restoration or repair techniques will be determined by winter 2006/2007 • Rehabilitation could begin in 2007

Water Treatment Plant

• Upgrades to the major components of the treatment plant to support a maximum daily production of 14 million gallons is essentially complete • Analysis of the overall water plant system will be done in 2006. This will identify improvements to enable the plant to produce 14 million gallons per day, and to ensure that the plant meets the current and projected Safe Drinking Water Act regulations.



HUNGRY TO HELP... Volunteers came to the Manna Food Center in Rockville to recognize the importance of National Hunger Awareness Day on June 6. Those helping to sort food included, left to right: Montgomery County Council members Tom Perez, Steve Silverman and Nancy Floreen, and Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo. Manna is currently experiencing a 15 percent increase in the number of households requiring emergency and supplemental food. For more information, visit www.mannafood.org.



Visitors on June 3 toured the new public plaza future site in the Rockville Town Square development.

Town Center Tours Take Visitors Square In the Middle of It All

Rockville residents apparently were excited about their first opportunity for an up-close view of the new Rockville Town Square development coming to Rockville Town Center.

More than 120 people attended special walking tours on Saturday, June 3, which took curious visitors inside the fences of the construction site.

The City's Neighborhood Resources Program, in conjunction with the Rockville Department of Community Planning and Development Services, conducted the 45-minute tours of the new development.

The tours highlighted the features of the new Town Square Development and its progress. One of those main features is the new retail coming to the area.

Federal Realty Investment Trust, one of the partners of the project, has announced an exciting mix of the first tenants that have made commitments to be part of Rockville Town Square:

Service businesses: Aveda Day Spa, Chevy Chase Bank, Gold's Gym, Hair Cuttery

Dining: Cusi, Doc Green's, Five Guys, Fractured Prune, Gifford's Ice Cream, Greystone Grill, LaTasca, Lebanese Taverna, Moe's Southwest Grill, Primo Italiano, Starbucks Coffee, Sushi Damo, Taste of Saigon

Retail: CVS drugstore, Bedheaders, Cottage Monet, The Papery, Red Orchard, Waygoose.

More retail tenants are expected to be announced this summer and another construction tour is expected for the fall. Read *Rockville Reports* for more details. **RR**

The City's Summer Fastball: The Rockville Express

Professional baseball returned to the Washington area last year with the relocation of the Washington Nationals. However, most people do not realize that baseball has a long history in the Rockville area, dating back to the Civil War.

And baseball is now back in Rockville, in the form of the Rockville Express. The Express is an amateur team that includes college standouts from across the nation and competes in the Cal Ripken Senior Collegiate League.

Peerless Rockville, the organization dedicated to preserving the City's history, traces Rockville baseball back to Union troops playing the game in their encampment on what is now the campus of Richard Montgomery High School. Those fields—known as the Rockville Fairgrounds—continued to be a

popular place for baseball after the Civil War.

The Rockville Express has a much busier schedule, often playing three to four times per week. Home games are played at Knights Field on the Montgomery College—Rockville campus. Upcoming home games are scheduled for June 26 and 29 and July 5, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 (doubleheader), 18, 19, 22 (doubleheader) and 29. Playoffs are scheduled for July 31-Aug. 4.

Rockville's mix of talented players includes former local stars such as infielders Mike Murphy (Georgetown Prep and the University of Maryland) and Matt Elden (St. John's High and Mount St. Mary's) and pitcher Matt Swissman (Wootton High and St. Mary's College).

Admission to games is free. Food and souvenirs are available at all games. **RR**

College Gardens Resident Wins First Annual Bicycle Commuter Award

When 51-year-old Wendy Aaronson returned to her College Gardens home after a two-week trip bicycling through Tuscany, Italy, she was pleasantly surprised with a message from the City of Rockville. Aaronson learned that she was the winner of a new bicycle, donated by TREK and Revolution Cycles, for Rockville's First Annual Bicycle Commuter Award.

On Bike to Work Day in Rockville, Aaronson's name was randomly drawn from dozens of entries submitted in honor of those who regularly make their commute by bicycle in and around the City.

Aaronson was nominated by a fellow swimmer at the Rockville Municipal Swim Center, Ann Hoffmann, not only because she bicycles to work each day, but also for her enthusiasm for the mode of transportation.

"Wendy 'spreads the fever,'" Hoffmann wrote in the nomination.



Wendy Aaronson

"She has offered to ride with me on my first bike to work trip from Rockville to the Cabin John Mall. I am reluctant to cross I-270 overpasses, but she said it is doable."

Aaronson started bicycling to work during the gas crisis in 1979, when the nation was asked to conserve energy. Gas was expensive and her employer charged for parking.

"At first it was a cost saving

measure," said Aaronson. "But now it is for mental health and staying physically fit. I use it as part of my schedule so it doesn't seem like I'm exercising or taking away from my personal time."

When her office moved to Silver Spring in September, at first the 15-mile commute each way was difficult to do by bicycle. After a month, her employer initiated a shuttle bus and her commute became much more manageable.

"I've started taking the bus part of the way, which reduces my ride to work to five miles and I ride the 15 miles home. I always have the option of taking the shuttle in inclement weather," she said.

Aaronson's award comes at the perfect time. She recently learned that her current bicycle is too old to efficiently repair.

"I was thinking about buying a new bike when I got back from Italy," she said. "I am so thrilled that now I don't have to!" **RR**

Supply Kits: Essential for Emergencies

Having an emergency supply kit can be an essential tool to surviving severe storms, electrical outages, evacuations, or other types of emergency. As hurricane season approaches, the City of Rockville Police Department is encouraging every resident who has not done so already, to prepare now.

"Emergencies can happen anywhere, at any time, so it is important that the people in Rockville be ready with a plan, including having an emergency supply kit," said Lt. Robert Rappoport of the Rockville City

Police Department.

Consider making two kits – one to keep at home, the other to take if you have to get away. When preparing kits, plan to survive on your own for at least three days. Essential items needed:

- Water – one gallon per person per day
- Food – canned and dried
- Clothing – appropriate for the season; include footwear and rain gear
- Bedding – blankets and sleeping bags
- Emergency supplies – first aid kit, flashlight, extra batteries,

battery-powered radio, wrench/pliers (to turn off utilities), moist towelettes, plastic sheeting and duct tape

- Family needs – prescription medications, infant formula and diapers, eyeglasses/contacts, entertainment, etc.
- Family documents – insurance policies, birth certificates, bank account records, etc. (in a portable waterproof container)
- Pets – extra food and water

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/police/emergency-preparedness.htm. **RR**

Discovery Preschool: Registration Open

Finding quality childcare for pre-school children can be a challenge for Rockville parents. But the licensed childcare professionals in the City's Recreation and Parks Department are making it easy.

Registration is now open for the 2006-07 Discovery programs at the Montrose Community Center (located at 451 Congressional Lane) and the Twinbrook Recreation Center Annex (12920A Twinbrook Parkway).

Half-day morning or most of the day programs are offered at Montrose from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Discovery program at Twinbrook is a year-round program operating from 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Discovery Preschool programs are for children ages 3-5

not enrolled in kindergarten and are toilet-trained.

Both programs offer caring, nurturing and experienced staff that go beyond traditional "baby-sitting" by leading children in a variety of stimulating activities. Youngsters participate in music, cultural activities, arts and crafts, science and nature, creative play and language learning that are designed to focus on social and academic skills while promoting self-confidence and individual expression.

"Our childcare leaders go beyond the traditional childcare to expose children to a diverse world of language and learning," said Glenda Moultrie, a Recreation Programs Supervisor. "For instance, at Twinbrook Discovery, the children learn sign language by learning the letter of the week in the English alphabet

and then in the American Sign Language alphabet."

Enrollment for the next school year is now open. A \$50 nonrefundable registration fee is required. The Twinbrook Discovery program runs from July 5 through June 26 and costs \$7,894 for residents and \$9,078 for nonresidents.

The Montrose Discovery program runs from Aug. 28, through June 8. The fee for residents is \$4,050 (9 a.m.-12:30 a.m.) and \$6,000 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.). For nonresidents it is \$4,650 (9 a.m.-12:30 a.m.) and \$6,900 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.).

Fees are paid monthly. Both programs will close for City holidays and have abbreviated schedules during winter and spring breaks.

For additional information or to register, call 240-314-8637 or e-mail mfrene@rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

Street Paving Program Keeping Pot Holes Grounded

Rockville's street paving program, which has kept City-maintained streets relatively pothole-free for more than four decades, began in June for 2006.

Rockville has kept a regular schedule over the years for milling and paving streets. Edge milling leaves a rough surface for the new asphalt to adhere. Milling the sides of roads creates a slight crown in the roadway, allowing water to run off.

Preparation for the work began in June. The resurfacing will take place approximately July 15 through Oct. 30 in selected areas.

The work is performed in summer when the weather is warmest because that is optimum for using hot asphalt. The timing also is good because schools are closed and traffic is less congested.

In June, residents in the areas of the repaving will receive a letter notifying them of the work. In addition, the City posts signs

on roads 48 hours in advance of work to inform residents of impending work. Variable message boards also will be placed on major streets approximately one week in advance of the work on that street. Resurfacing is generally conducted from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, contact Rockville's Department of Public Works at 240-314-8500.

Portions of the following roads are schedule for paving through Oct. 30:

Maryland Avenue (from Potomac Valley Road to East Jefferson Street); North Horner's Lane (from Park Road to Ashley Avenue); North Stonestreet Avenue (from Ashley Avenue to Lincoln Avenue); Carr Avenue (from Forest Avenue to Luckett Street); Crawford Drive (from Edmonston Drive to Atlantic Avenue); Langbrook Place; Leahy Drive (from Vandergrift Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue);

West Bound Lane of West Gude Drive (from Route 355 to Research Boulevard); Research Boulevard (from Shady Grove Road to West Gude Drive); North Van Buren Street (from North Street to West Montgomery Avenue); Chapman Avenue (from Thompson Avenue to Rollins Avenue (city limits); Twinbrook Parkway (from the bridge over the railroad to Route 355)

If funding allows, the following additional streets will be repaved:

Twinbrook Parkway (from Veirs Mill Road to Baltimore Road); McAuliffe Drive (from Bradley Avenue to Twinbrook Parkway); Tower Oaks Boulevard (from Montrose Road to Wootton Parkway) Veirs Mill Service Drive South (from Gail Avenue to Midway Avenue); Avery Road (from Route 28 to the city limit) **RR**



The Rockville Public Safety Awards on June 14 honored uniformed officers and others for dedicated acts of service. With honored Rockville Police Officers Ryan Street and Michael Sullivan (fourth and fifth from left) were, left to right, Rockville City Police Chief Terry Treschuk, Mayor Larry Giammo and Councilmembers Anne Robbins, Phyllis Marcuccio and Bob Dorsey.

Two Officers Honored For Exposing Drug Ring

Rockville City Police Officers Ryan Street and Michael Sullivan never imagined that a routine "call" would lead to the discovery of a massive drug trafficking network affecting communities throughout the east coast.

For their bravery in apprehending an armed suspect connected to the drug ring, Street and Sullivan were among the local police, fire and rescue officers and others honored at the Rockville Public Safety Awards ceremony in June.

On Sept. 7, 2005, the officers were called to investigate an altercation at the Montgomery College-Rockville campus.

When Sullivan arrived, a man dashed toward the interior of the campus. Following a mile-long foot pursuit, the officer saw the suspect holding what looked like a weapon. During the arrest, the officers found a knife and a .45-caliber pistol.

"In these situations, thoughts of inherent danger go out of the window," said Sullivan. "We have to do whatever we can to get him off the street."

Further investigation led police to find several illegal handguns and nearly 500 ecstasy pills. The evidence gave allied police agencies the information needed to expose the East Coast drug network, which led to the

primary suspect being sentenced to nine years in prison.

"I was surprised and ecstatic when I heard we were winning the Distinguished Service Citation," said Sullivan. "It is nice to have our work recognized by the community."

Other ceremony honorees included Fallmead Elementary School PTA President Brigitte SanGiovanni, Fallmead teachers Sam Winternitz, Marton Chappell and Scott Buehler and Washington Metropolitan Transit Police Officer Jeffrey Sesok for confronting a man defacing property and sexually assaulting a 10-year-old female crossing guard. Deputy Steve Austin of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department also received a Distinguished Service Citation for reducing the number of guns in the community.

Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation Cpl. Douglas Carranza received the Citation for Bravery for pulling a man out of an overturned van before it erupted into flames on Interstate 270. Civilian Stephen Cohen was presented the same award for stopping an armed robbery.

The Domestic Violence Section of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department was bestowed the Meritorious Service Citation for its work. **RR**

— by Kin Lai

Emu Oil Now at Wed. Farmers' Market Locally Grown Fruits, Vegetables and More Also Available

On East Montgomery Avenue in Rockville Town Center each Wednesday is a stand that is distinct from any other in the City's Growers Only Farmers' Market. There are no plants or vegetables. Rather, rows of colorful bottles containing emu oil.

For the past 12 years, Jim and Peggy Royer have operated Old Orchard Emu, a farm located in Sabillasville, Md. Among the items grown and raised there are emu—large, flightless birds native to Australia.

Old Orchard Emu is the newest vendor to the Wednesday Farmers' Market.

They joined nearly a dozen local merchants selling their wares each Wednesday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. until Oct. 25. The market is held in conjunction with the Rockville Department of Recreation and Parks' "Out to Lunch Wednesdays" — a weekly street festival featuring live band performances.

According to the Royers, when rubbed on the skin, emu oil helps to moisturize, relieve arthritis pain, enhance healing, prevent itching and reduce scarring and swelling.

"I came to Rockville this year because of the good things I've

heard about the crowd and atmosphere from farmers I know that have participated in the market," said Jim Royer.

A larger version of the Growers Only Farmers' Market also takes place every Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Montgomery County jurors' parking lot at the corner of East Jefferson Street (Route 28) and Monroe Street.

For a complete list of participating vendors, available produce and harvest dates, visit Rockville's Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov/events/farmers.htm. **RR**

— by Kin Lai



AWARDING EXCELLENCE...The Rockville Scholarship Foundation awarded six scholarships to outstanding Rockville youth on June 19. Winners were recognized by the Mayor and Council. Since its inception, the foundation has granted more than \$160,000 to Rockville students pursuing post-secondary education. Above, left to right, RSF President John Moser, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann, honoree Chiao-Yang Hsiao, Councilmembers Phyllis Marcuccio and Anne Robbins, honoree Erika Lam, Mayor Larry Giammo, honoree Justin Herbert and Jeff Miller of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

Veirs Mill/First St. To Be Discussed

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is considering several options to improve traffic flow at the heavily congested intersection at Veirs Mill Road and First Street (Route 28).

The options range from making no changes to building a "grade separated" interchange that would have Veirs Mill elevated over First Street.

The SHA will hold public hearings on Tuesday, June 27, and Wednesday, July 19, at Rockville High School. Maps and displays will be available at 5 p.m. Testimony will begin at 7. To sign up to speak, residents can call 1-800-548-5026. **RR**

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the
City Government at Work

Rockville Expands Homeowner Tax Credit Program

The Mayor and Council adopted an expanded Rockville Homeowners' Tax Credit Program in the FY2007 City budget that is expected to increase the number of households eligible for tax relief and provide a larger tax credit to those who are already participating in the program.

The Rockville Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program, first approved in the FY2006 budget, supplements the State of Maryland Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program that caps property tax liability depending on the household's ability to pay.

Last year, 366 households received an average credit of \$200 to their City property taxes, which supplemented the state's program in the amount of 35 percent of the state credit, not to exceed city tax liability.

In FY07, households with gross incomes up to \$70,000 will qualify for tax relief on the first \$300,000 of the home's assessed value. By contrast, the program adopted last year was limited to households earning less than \$35,000 and applied only to tax on the first \$150,000 of assessed value.

During the 2006 Maryland General Assembly session, the District 17 delegation that represents Rockville played a key role in passing legislation that allowed expansion of the tax

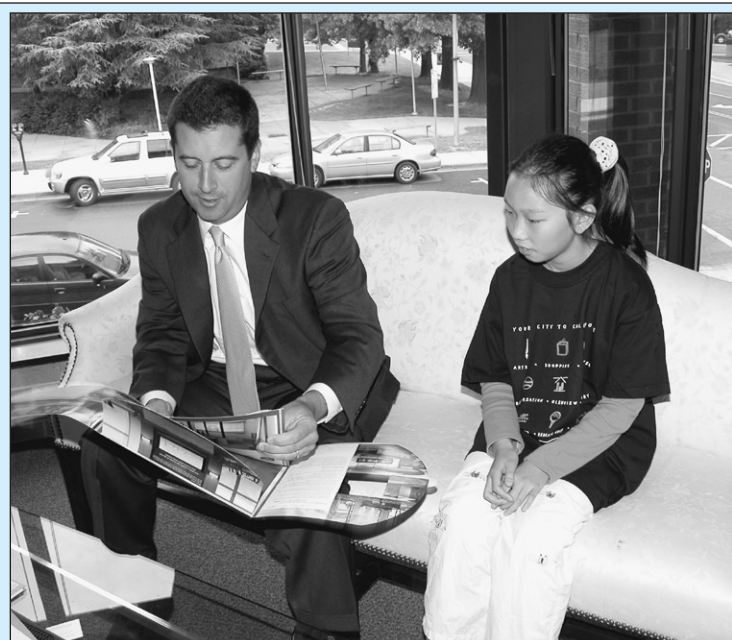
credit program.

Last year, the state credit applied to the first \$150,000 of assessed value and phased out for gross household incomes beyond about \$35,000. This year, the credit will apply to the first \$300,000 of assessed value and will not phase out until gross household income reaches \$50,000.

The new law also excludes the value of retirement savings (such as 401(k) funds) from the calculation of net worth. Households that have a net worth greater than \$200,000 cannot qualify for the program. Net worth does not include the value of the principal residence. The state tax program applies to all taxes on the bill.

An application is routinely sent to homeowners who were recipients of a state tax credit in the previous year, and applicants must reapply for the program each year.

To get more information on how to apply for the state and Rockville tax credit programs, call the City's Department of Finance at 240-314-8400 or the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation at (toll free) 1-800-944-7403. Detailed information also is available at the State Department of Assessments Web site at www.dat.state.md.us. **RR**



A MEETING OF THE MAYORAL MINDS... Amy Yan, a fourth grader from Beall Elementary School, learns from Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo what her duties and responsibilities are as "Mayor for a Day" in May. Yan earned the opportunity to share power with Mayor Giammo for her winning entry in the Maryland Municipal League essay contest on the importance of controlling pollution and protecting the green lands in the city.

RORZOR Wants Citizens in the Zone

The committee appointed to study and make suggestions to update Rockville's Zoning Ordinance is ready to present its preliminary findings to residents.

On Thursday, July 27, the Representatives of Rockville Zoning Ordinance Review (RORZOR) committee will hold an open discussion at 7 p.m. at City Hall to outline some of the committee's key points of focus.

The zoning revision process has been in the works for almost a year and is expected to extend into 2007. The Mayor and Council will make final decisions on changes to the ordinance after considering input from the RORZOR committee and other citizens.

The 11-member RORZOR committee, which was appointed by the Mayor and Council in March, includes Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmember Susan Hoffmann and a cross-section of residents and representatives of the business community. Some members carry experience from other City boards, including the Planning Commission and the Board of Appeals.

The group's early work has involved creating general guidelines for its mission, such as rewording the zoning ordinance

into clear understandable language. Other topics will be discussed in more detail, including the width of sidewalks in various sections of the City.

The overall goal is to bring zoning standards up-to-date and to meet the needs of the changing nature of Rockville.

Topics that have already come under discussion include limiting the number of "single-use" districts (primarily to single-family districts) and to use a number of mixed-use districts (zoning that could allow a mix of uses including residential, retail and office in close proximity.)

There also is a proposal to have three tiers of industrial district zoning. The first would provide for the possible annexation of industrial land on East Gude Drive. The second will allow for employees to live on-site or near some of the industrial employers in other areas of the City. The third would allow a greater mix of uses, with low-intensity industrial uses.

For more information on the zoning revision processing, or the July 27 public forum, call Rockville's Department of Community Planning and Development Services at 240-314-8200. **RR**

Upcoming Zoning Ordinance Meetings:

July 10 – Outline Presented to Mayor and Council, 7 p.m.

July 11 – RORZOR Discussion of High Performance Building Ordinance, 6 p.m.

July 18 – Outline Discussion with Neighborhood Leaders, 7 p.m.

July 25 – RORZOR Discussion of Mixed-Use Districts, 6 p.m.

July 27 – Public Forum Discussion of Outline, 7 p.m.



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Bob Dorsey



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. one Monday per month. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Giammo, the Councilmember scheduled for July is:

- Monday, July 24: Anne Robbins

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov. Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizens Forum" portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- July 10 (Mon.)** Citizens' Forum. Public Hearing: Champion Billiards. RORZOR update. 7 p.m.
- July 17 (Mon.)** Goals for Rockville Economic Development, Inc., 7 p.m.
- July 24 (Mon.)** Citizens' Forum. Good Neighbor Awards. Public Hearing: Lincoln Park Neighborhood Plan (Tent.)
- July 31 (Mon.)** Quarterly Projects Update.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Board of Appeals (one)
 - Board of Supervisors of Elections (one)
 - Cultural Arts Commission (one)
 - Human Services Advisory Commission (two)
 - Human Rights Commission (two)
 - Montgomery Community Television (MCT) Board of Directors (City of Rockville rep.)
 - Rec. and Parks Advisory (youth)
 - Rockville Housing Enterprises (one)
 - Rockville Scholarship Foundation (one)
 - Rockville Sister City Corp. (two)
 - Sign Review Board (one)
- For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.

IMPACT OF CREDIT ON CITY TAX BILL

Assessed Value	Gross Income	Property Tax	State Credit*	City Credit	Tax After Credits
\$200,000	\$30,000	\$624	\$198	\$426	\$0
\$250,000	\$40,000	\$780	\$126	\$454	\$200
\$300,000	\$50,000	\$936	\$53	\$483	\$400
\$350,000	\$60,000	\$1,092	\$0	\$336	\$756

*This is the portion of the state credit that applies to the City tax bill.

Water and Sewer Rate Changes Start July 1

The City recently adopted a change to its water and sewer rate structure.

Beginning July 1, the current rate of \$2.26 per 1,000 gallons for all users will be changed to a tiered scale. The three tiers are: \$1.62 per 1,000 gallons for the first 12,000 gallons used; \$2.33 per 1,000 gallons for the next 12,000 gallons used; \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons over 24,000 gallons used.

The sewer rate has changed for all users from \$3.75 to \$3.63 per 1,000 gallons in FY 07.

All users will see a new ready-to-serve charge on each bill, similar to those already charged by most utility companies in the region. The charge is based on the size of water meters, with the charge split evenly between the water and sewer funds. Users with three-quarter inch meters will pay \$9 per quarter. Those with one-inch-sized meters—which include most newer homes that are equipped with fire sprinklers—will be assessed \$15 per quarter. **RR**

OUT & ABOUT IN ROCKVILLE

Highlighting City Events and Programs

Rockville's July 4 Celebration To Be Held At Montgomery College

Rockville's Independence Day celebration, which for decades has been one of the biggest in the Washington metropolitan area suburbs, will be moving to a new home for 2006: The Rockville campus of Montgomery College.

The celebration, which traditionally has included music and food vendors preceding an elaborate fireworks display on the grounds of Richard Montgomery High School, will again have stages headlined by entertainment for the entire family. However, the former grounds of Richard Montgomery are currently the construction site of what will be a new high school, necessitating the location change.

"We are deeply grateful to Montgomery College for allowing us to continue the half-century tradition of our annual fireworks display in Rockville on their campus this year," said Burt Hall, director of the City's Department of Recreation and Parks. "We are looking forward to another exciting event."

Spectator viewing for fireworks on this Tuesday, July 4, will be from the Montgomery College football stadium and from parking lots surrounding the Montgomery College campus indicated on the map.

The college is accessible from Maryland Route 355 and from Manakee Street. Attendees are

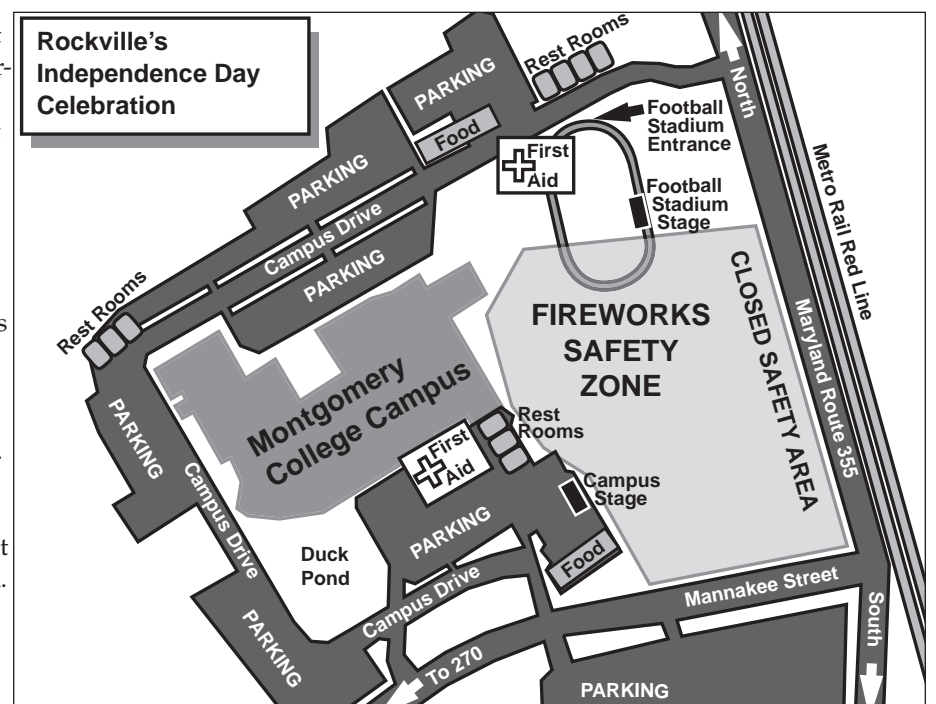
encouraged to respect surrounding neighborhoods by using designated parking at the college and other public parking.

An entertainment stage in the football stadium will feature The Dixieland Express of Maryland from 7-7:30 p.m. and the Rockville Concert Band from 8-9:30 p.m. A stage near the Performing Arts Center will feature the J Street Jumpers from 7-8 p.m. and 8:30-9:30 p.m. Fireworks are scheduled for 9:30 p.m.

There is limited bleacher seating at the stadium stage. Participants also can bring chairs, blankets, and picnics; but no barbecues

area allowed. Food vendors selling hotdogs, hamburgers, french fries, drinks and other

festival fare will be available. All events and parking are free. **RR**



Freshly made popcorn is a popular treat at the City's annual 'Come Out and Play' celebration at the Twinbrook Rec. Center.

Families 'Come Out and Play' at Twinbrook July 18 Hundreds Participate in Annual City Tradition

Once a year, hundreds of families from every Rockville neighborhood meet at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center for an unforgettable evening of carnival games, skits, food and friendly competition.

Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks will again host its 14th annual "Come Out and Play" event on Tuesday, July 18, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

The night is a hallmark event for Rockville's Summer Playgrounds Program, a six-week summer experience of arts, crafts, sports, games and field trips at the playgrounds of Beall, Elwood Smith, King Farm, Lakewood, Lincoln Park, Maryvale, Montrose, Potomac Woods, Twinbrook and Woodley Gardens.

Come Out and Play will feature youth and staff performing skits interpreting the theme "Hot Fun in the Summer Sun."

In addition, the center's

gym will be transformed into a carnival where kids from each playground proudly display homemade playground banners and run family-friendly activities such as a beanbag toss, face painting, bowling, Frisbee toss and hockey shoot. Hand-made crafts and novelty items serve as prizes.

"'Come Out and Play' is a fantastic opportunity for the parents and children from every corner of Rockville to gather and meet each other," said Karen Rawlins, Rockville's community recreation programs supervisor.

The show is free, but each activity requires one to three tickets. Tickets are 25 cents each or five for \$1. Proceeds go to the Rockville Youth Recreation Fund, which provides opportunities for children from families of financial need to participate in City recreation programs.

For more information, call 240-314-8633 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov and click on "Rock Enroll." **RR**

— by Kin Lai

Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest Set for July 15

The night sky illuminated by Rockville Town Center's streetlights will set the stage for the 21st Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest on Saturday, July 15.

The largest evening road race in Montgomery County features an eight-kilometer race and a one-kilometer "Fun Run." The event also includes a festival with live entertainment beginning at 7 p.m. The races start at 8:40 p.m. at the intersection of North Washington Street and East Middle Lane.

"The Twilight Runfest has been very popular over the years," said Phil Bryan, Rockville's superintendent of Recreation. "We have 2,500-3,000

runners participating from all around the region and places as far away as Kenya."

Participants are divided into numerous divisions including open (all runners), masters (runners aged 40 and over), team (open or masters) and wheelchair.

The defending men's open champion is Wilson Komen of Washington, who finished in 23 minutes, 58 seconds. The 2005 women's open champion was Olga Romanova of Germantown, who finished in 27:11.

Hosted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville, the run is presented by the Rockville Rotary Club and conducted by The Montgomery County Road

Runners Club.

The 8K fee is \$24 by July 7, \$27 by 4 p.m. race day and \$35 after 6 p.m. race day. The fee to participate in the 1K Fun Run is \$10 per person.

Race proceeds go to the support the Rockville Rotary Youth Recreation Fund, which enables Rockville youth to participate in recreation programs they would otherwise not be able to afford. Additional tax-deductible contributions are accepted along with entry fees.

More information, including entry forms, is available at www.mcrrc.org/twilighter or call 240-314-5028. **RR**

— by Kin Lai

A Record May at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

From chorus and ballet recitals to musical and opera productions, the 500-seat F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is widely known as a destination for high-quality entertainment in Rockville. In May, the theatre named for the celebrated author who often visited Rockville attracted record use, including an all-time best number of private organizations that held special celebrations.

More than 24 public and private events brought 12,000 visitors to the theatre in May.

Regular spring productions by the groups Rockville Little Theatre, Potomac Valley Youth Orchestra, Rockville Chorus, the Rockville Ballet and the Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra were highly attended.

In addition, the National Institutes of Mental Health



F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre

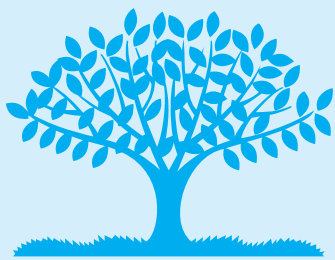
held an awards ceremony, Montgomery County Bar Association had its annual dinner and review and Montgomery County hosted a lecture by a well known author.

Diverse groups such as the Rockville Chinese School and the Coral Cantigas celebrated major anniversaries with special programs at the theatre. And the Division of Alternative Programs of Montgomery County Public Schools held its graduation cer-

emony—the first of many who annually gather at the theatre for pomp and circumstance.

"While many people think of the theatre as a destination for the performing arts used by both community theatrical groups and professional touring companies, it is much more than that," said Kim Haug, the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre manager. "Besides stage performances, the theater and its social hall are available for conferences, seminars, celebrations and other large meetings. We also have a full service box office as well as Internet access for greater customer convenience"

For more information about upcoming performances or to inquire about renting F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre or call 240-314-8690. **RR**



Soak Those Rockville City Street Trees

The dry weather conditions during the past few months have affected all living things—including the City's street trees.

If there is a City street tree near your home exhibiting signs of moisture stress, including drooping or curling leaves, browning leaf edges, premature fall color and/or a large number of leaves dropping off, the City encourages residents to help ensure that tree survives by watering it. Younger trees and those newly planted are especially at risk.

The best way to water trees is once per week, flowing hose water onto the base for three to five minutes. Older trees benefit from a sprinkler for 15-20 minutes. Watering is best done in early morning or evening.

CALL **240-314-8700** FOR INFO

In Brief

July-Dec. Listing of City Events Available

A free brochure with details on major City events will be available in July at City facilities and participating area businesses. The City of Rockville 2006 July-December Bi-annual Events Calendar features information on the dozens of events offered each month in the City.

To receive a free copy by mail, call 240-314-8116 or e-mail jstrohm@rockvillemd.gov.

CALL **240-314-8116** FOR INFO

Independence Day Schedule

Rockville City Hall will close on Tuesday, July 4, as the City celebrates Independence Day.

In addition to City Hall, most Rockville facilities and programs will not operate on July 4, or will operate in a limited basis.

The City will not collect refuse or recycling on the holiday. Residents with scheduled collections for that day should put out their refuse or recycling on the next regularly scheduled collection day. Those participating in the pilot refuse program, which features once per week pick-ups on Mondays, are not affected by the holiday.

CALL **240-314-5000** FOR INFO

Brotman Continues Support of Every 15 Minutes Program

Allstate Agent Ron Brotman donated a \$500 Allstate "Agency Hands in the Community" grant to the City of Rockville Police in May. This continued his support of the police by volunteering and providing personal financial help annually for the City's "Every 15 Minutes" program.

Every 15 Minutes is conducted alternating years at Richard Montgomery and Rockville high schools to promote safe driving. The program demonstrates the consequences of drinking and driving.

CALL **240-314-8917** FOR INFO

Town Center Action Team to Meet June 27

The Town Center Action Team (TCAT), a citizen group interested in Rockville Town Center development, will host a public meeting at the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, 255 Rockville Pike, Suite L-1, on Tuesday, June 27, at 7 p.m.

Guest speakers Doug Murdoch of Regal Cinemas and Anne Strange of Vornado Realty will discuss questions related to Regal Row.

CALL **240-314-8096** FOR INFO



CARVER GETS ITS PLACE IN HISTORY... *George Washington Carver High School, which from 1951-60 was the only high school in Montgomery County for African-American students, was dedicated in June as a standing historic site by the Montgomery County Board of Education. A portion of the existing building today is part of the Montgomery County Public Schools headquarters on Hungerford Drive. Carver was dedicated as a historic building in 2003 by Rockville's Mayor and Council.*

"I now understand what you went through to get an education," Montgomery County Superintendent of Schools Jerry Weast told many former Carver students who attended the ceremonies. "I now understand that this is hallowed ground."

The speakers at the ceremonies included, left to right, Carver graduate Warren Crutchfield, Montgomery Deputy Superintendent of Schools Frieda K. Lacey, Board of Education member Charles Haughey, former Carver vice-principal and teacher Mable D. Thomas, Carver graduate Marylah Clark Martin, African-American liaison of the Montgomery County government Tina Clarke and Superintendent Weast.

CITY 1,8,15,22,29

Growers Only Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m. Route 28 and Monroe Street. 240-314-5022.

4 Independence Day Celebration
7-10 p.m. Montgomery College—Rockville campus. 240-314-5022.

5,12,19,26 Out To Lunch Wednesdays 11 a.m.-2 p.m. East Montgomery Avenue. 240-314-5022.

7&8 Rockville Open and City Championship Golf Tournament
RedGate Municipal Golf Course. 240-314-8730.

15 Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest 8-kilometer race and 1-kilometer fun run through the streets of Rockville. Followed by music and refreshments. 7-11 p.m. Rockville Town Center. 240-314-8600.

18 Come Out & Play with Rockville Playgrounds Family-friendly carnival games, moon bounce and talent skits presented by groups of students at each playground program. 5:30 p.m. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. FREE. 240-314-8633.

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

1-Oct. 16 Sculpture on the Grounds Juried Regional Show outdoor sculpture exhibit on the lush grounds of Rockville Civic Center Park. Sunrise to sunset. Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-8681.

2 Sunday Afternoon Concert Series: Swing Speak Swing music celebrates the opening of this month's art exhibition. 2 p.m. Glenview Mansion. FREE. 240-314-8682.

2-Aug. 1 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: North Bethesda Camera

july

calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

Club - photography. **Sara Brown** - fiber collage with photo transfer images. **Daniele Piasecki** - photography. Opening reception: July 2, 1-4 p.m. Artist talk: July 20, 7:30 p.m. Guided tour: July 21, 10 a.m. Glenview Mansion. FREE. 240-314-8660.

11 Kids, Parks, Performing Arts: Goombay—The Caribbean Experience 7:30 p.m. Falls Grove Park. FREE. 240-314-8682.

12 Family Arts Night: Mystic Warriors 7:30 p.m. Courthouse Square Park. FREE. 240-314-8681.

18 Kids Parks Performing Arts: Patricia Shih's "Big Ideas for the Whole Family" 7:30 p.m. Glenview Mansion grounds at Rockville Civic Center Park. FREE. 240-314-8682.

18 Outdoor Shakespeare Performance "Much Ado About Nothing" presented by National Players. 7:30 p.m. Courthouse Square Park. 240-314-8681.

18 Rockville Concert Band: Patio Performances Patio behind F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. 7 p.m. FREE. 240-314-5006.

19 Family Arts Night: The Great Expectations Band 7:30 p.m. Courthouse Square Park. FREE. 240-314-8681.

25 Kids, Parks, Performing Arts: Cantare's Fiesta! 7:30 p.m. Potomac Woods Park. FREE. 240-314-8682

26 Family Arts Night: Retrospect 7:30 p.m. FREE. Courthouse Square Park. 240-314-8681.

NATURE

All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.

17-21 Eco-Kids Camp Explore five threats to biodiversity in five days. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 8-15. \$275 RES/\$360 NR.

24-28 Art Adventures in Nature Explore the wonders of nature through an artist's eye at Croydon Creek. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-14. \$230 RES/\$255 NR.

31-Aug. 4 Guppy Camp Come meet the critters living at Croydon Creek and explore varied and exciting natural history topics. 9:30 a.m.-12 noon. Ages 5-7. \$75 RES/\$80 NR.

SENIORS

All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800.

5 July Birthday and Anniversary Party 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Register by June 28.

5-19 French for Travelers—Beginners 10 a.m.-12 noon \$35 RES/\$43 NR.

6 Water Gardening 10-11 a.m. \$2 MEM/\$4 NM. Register by June 29.

7 Rappahannock River Cruise Trip 7 a.m.-6:30 p.m. \$94 MEM/\$117 NM. Register by June 23.

10 State of Maryland Emergency Preparedness 1-2 p.m. FREE. Register by July 3.

10,25,27 Computers: Beginners Introduction \$5 RES/\$7 NR.

11 Museum of Md. African American History Trip 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. \$22 MEM/\$27 NM. Register by July 5.

11-18 Digital Photography Beginners 1-3 p.m. \$35 RES/\$43 NR.

12 Exotic Teas and Chocolates 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. \$2 MEM/\$5 NM. Register by July 5.

13 How To Listen To Jazz 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. FREE. Register by July 6.

18 Is Pain Stopping You? 1-2 p.m. FREE.

18 Photographing Maryland Landscapes 10:30 a.m.-12 noon. \$2 MEM/\$4 NM. Register by July 11.

19 Classical Music Appreciation: Music of Spain 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Register by July 12.

19 Computers: Use and Demonstration of a DVD burner 1-3 p.m. \$6 RES/\$8 NR.

20 All Seasons Angels 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$5 MEM/\$7 NM. Register by July 13.

20 New Technology for Heart Disease 1-2 p.m. FREE.

24 Big Band Swing 1-2:30 p.m. \$2 MEM/\$4 NM. Register by July 17.

24-Aug. 2 Computers: Windows XP 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$35 RES/\$43 NR.

25 Computers: More keyboard and mouse 1-3 p.m. \$6 RES/\$8 NR.

26 The Changing Real Estate Market 10-11:30 a.m. FREE.

26 The Jefferson Café: The Lost Art of Conversation 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Register by July 19.

26 Woodworking: Ten Questions 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$2 MEM/\$4 NM. Register by July 19.

27 Riverboat Murder Mystery Dinner Trip 4-11:30 p.m. \$79 MEM/\$99 NM. Register by July 13.

31 Computers: Virus Protection and Removal 1-3 p.m. FREE.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

8 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m.

11 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., Glenview Mansion

11 Commission on the Environment, 7:30 p.m.

11 Landlord/Tenant Affairs, 5:30 p.m., 20 Courthouse Square

12 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

12 Cultural Arts Commission, 7 p.m.

18 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center

18 Town Center Action Team, 7 p.m., Rockville Chamber of Commerce

19 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

19 Rockville Housing Enterprises, 6:30 p.m., Lincoln Park Community Ctr.

20 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Senior Center

20 Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m.

20 Rockville Sister City Corporation, 7:30 p.m.

25 Traffic and Transportation Commission, 7:30 p.m.

26 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

26 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

26 Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board Meeting, 7:30 a.m., 95 Monroe Street. 301-315-8096

27 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 p.m., Lincoln Park Community Center

Rockville Up Close: King Farm Welcomes New Residents

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

Moving into a new community can be an intimidating experience for many people, filled with concerns and uncertainties. But not for new residents of King Farm, who were recently extended a very warm welcome.

Held for the first time on April 27, the newest residents of this Rockville community were invited to attend a welcome reception where they met each other along with members of the King Farm Board of Trustees, chairpersons of the King Farm committees and the King Farm on-site management staff. Coordinated by King



New residents to King Farm enjoyed their first evening social getting to know more about each other and the community.

Farm Activities Director Andrea Escher, people who had lived in the community for six months or less were extended invitations. "We have so many new residents every six months,

75-100, we were trying to find a way to introduce them to the community," said Escher. "The welcome reception was geared to be a social where residents could meet each other and ask questions about the

neighborhood." Twenty-five people attended the reception, where they dined on food catered by Mamma Lucia's, met neighbors and learned how to submit applications for pool passes. They learned trash and recycling guidelines and schedules. They also heard how to get more involved in their community.

Each family also received a tote bag filled with important community information, including the King Farm newsletter, activities guide and a brochure with City phone numbers.

"A lot of people live in King Farm and don't know who does what," said Escher. "This reception gave the residents an idea about the community and all of its different entities."

Following the success of the first Welcome Reception, King Farm plans to continue the event each year. **RR**
— by Dana Kinker

Volunteer Time: Rockville Library Gala

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month "Volunteer Time" highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

As the largest library in Montgomery County prepares to open this fall in Rockville Town Center, Friends of the Rockville Library (FOL) is looking for new members who know how to throw a great party.

A fundraising gala is scheduled to be held at the new Rockville Library on Saturday, Nov. 11. FOL, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the Rockville Library, needs volunteers to begin helping now with the gala planning.

Titled "World Collections: A Taste of Culture," the event will feature themed food and entertainment inspired by the library's four cultural collections: American, Asian, Spanish and Russian.

Volunteers are needed to help with everything from event coordination to publicity and fundraising.

"Our goal is to raise money to support future programs and to thank the community for their longtime support of Rockville Library," said Aileen Klein, fundraising chairperson.

Slated to open in fall 2006, the new library is in a prime location at the corner of Beall and the extended Maryland Avenue. The entrance fronts the public square in the new Rockville Town Square development.

In addition to the friendly atmosphere and state-of-the-art technology planned for the new facility, the flagship library will include a collection of books in the Russian language – the first for Montgomery County Public Libraries.

For more information about the gala, contact Dan Beavin at 240-777-0141 or visit the Rockville Library at 99 Maryland Avenue. **RR**

— by Kin Lai

Take a Bite Out of Mosquitoes Before They Take a Bite Out of You

Late afternoon hours on hot days in East Coast areas such as Rockville usually are sure to be accompanied by two things: Gorgeous sunsets and biting mosquitoes. Although most people in this area may be accustomed to spraying on the bug repellent and lighting up citronella candles only at dusk, there is a new bug in town—the Asian Tiger mosquito—who is making fighting mosquitoes more of a round-the-clock challenge.

The Asian Tiger has black and white bands on its legs and a black body with white stripes. Unlike mosquitoes generally found in this area, it is active—



Asian Tiger Mosquito

and biting—during the day.

These mosquitoes are weak flyers, so they often stay close to where they are breeding. Although known in the U.S. for only about 20 years, and only recently more prevalent in this area, Asian Tigers are potential carriers of yellow fever, dengue, LaCrosse encephalitis, West

Nile Virus and dog heartworm.

Like all mosquitoes, if an Asian Tiger lays eggs in water that remains stagnant for seven days, that water likely will become the birthplace of future flying biters.

Mosquitoes can reproduce in very small collections of water, meaning Rockville residents should take measures to reduce the chance of mosquitoes breeding.

Residents should eliminate any standing water around the home on a weekly basis. This means changing water in outdoor pet bowls and birdbaths and emptying water from items such as play equipment, tarps

and grills after it rains. Other common places that collect water are rain gutters, children's toys, potted plant saucers, grills and trash cans.

"Spraying as a means of controlling Asian Tiger mosquitoes is typically ineffective," said Nate Wall, an environmental specialist for Rockville. "It is difficult to target the tiny breeding spots with a spray. Your best bet is the elimination of mosquito breeding water habitat around your home."

For more tips and information on preventing mosquitoes around, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/westnile.htm. **RR**
— by Dana Kinker

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL JULY PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE							--- CLIP & SAVE ---	
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission	Historic District Commission	Mayor & Council	Mayor & Council	Historic District Commission	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission		
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
7 a.m.	Permit Process	Air Quality Codes	Into the Blue	Public Safety Awards	Into the Blue	Air Quality Codes	Permit Process		
7:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council		
9 a.m.		Into the Blue	Public Safety Awards	Paving & Concrete Maintenance	Into the Blue	Exploring Rockville's Past			
9:30 a.m.		Mosquito Control	Permit Process	Health Wise	Air Quality Codes	Into the Blue			
10 a.m.		Exploring Rockville's Past	Into the Blue	Air Quality Codes	Mosquito Control	Permit Process			
10:30 a.m.		Paving & Concrete Maintenance	Health Wise	An Informed Citizenry	Health Wise	Public Safety Awards			
11 a.m.		Public Safety Awards	Air Quality Codes	Mosquito Control	Air Quality Codes	An Informed Citizenry	Cityline		
11:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
1 p.m.	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Historic District Commission	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Planning Commission		
4 p.m.	Rockville U: Get Involved		Rockville U: Get Involved	Rockville U: Get Involved		Rockville U: Get Involved			
5 p.m.	Public Safety Awards	An Informed Citizenry	Into the Blue	Public Safety Awards	An Informed Citizenry	Paving & Concrete Maintenance	Into the Blue		
5:30 p.m.	An Informed Citizenry	Air Quality Codes	Public Safety Awards	Exploring Rockville's Past	Into the Blue	Public Safety Awards	Mosquito Control		
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
7 p.m.	Planning Commission	Mayor & Council	Paving & Concrete Maintenance	Planning Commission	Permit Process	Mayor & Council	An Informed Citizenry		
7:30 p.m.			An Informed Citizenry		Public Safety Awards		Mosquito Control		
8 p.m.			Into the Blue		Exploring Rockville's Past		Paving & Concrete Maintenance		
8:30 p.m.			Public Safety Awards						
9 p.m.			Health Wise						
9:30 p.m.			Cityline		Cityline		Cityline		
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
10:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
11 p.m.	Public Safety Awards	Into the Blue	Permit Process	Exploring Rockville's Past	Air Quality Codes	Into the Blue	Public Safety Awards		
11:30 p.m.	An Informed Citizenry	Public Safety Awards	Air Quality Codes	Into the Blue	Paving & Concrete Maintenance	Public Safety Awards	Into the Blue		